DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEWED BY Quinlan DATE 5-9-83
RDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE
REASON(S)
IS AUTH.
NEW YORK TIMES
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
RELEASE DENIED ☐
FOIA or FOI EXEMPTIONS
504
R

JUNE 4, 1979

Palestinian Group Warns of Future Assassinations

BEIRUT, Lebanon, June 3 — Palestinian guerrilla leaders warned here today that the assassination on Friday of a prominent supporter of Egypt's peace treaty with Israel would not be the last.

The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, which has taken responsibility for killing Sheik Hasham Huzandair, an Islamic religious leader in the Israeli-occupied Gaza Strip, threatened today to try to kill the mayor of the town, Rashad Shawa. A spokesman for the group accused Mr. Shawa of collaborating with Israeli and Egyptian officials.

A Popular Front communiqué yesterday said its guerrillas had stabbed the 70-year-old Sheik Huzandair to death in front of his home. He had declared his support for President Anwar el-Sadat's peace initiative and the Egyptian-Israeli treaty.

Traditionally, the Popular Front has been the strongest guerrilla group in Gaza and has maintained secret cells there since it was captured by Israel in the 1967 war.

The assassination of Palestinians who collaborate with Israel or Egypt is part of a new strategy outlined last month in Damascus by the front's founder and leader, Dr. George Habash.

He said the guerrilla movement should start a drawn-out struggle against not only Israel but also the United States and what he called Palestinian traitors.

Israeli Cabinet Meets

Special to The New York Times

JERUSALEM, June 3 — The Israeli Cabinet was reported today to have discussed the increase in terrorism in the country.

While the Cabinet was in session, a small bomb went off in a bookstore in the business center of modern Jerusalem. A woman customer suffered slight injuries and a sales woman was treated for shock. The blast destroyed many books and damaged shelves and the store's walls.

The manager told the police he believed the charge had been concealed in books brought to the store earlier by an unidentified young Arab.

Police officials were understood to be studying measures to protect Arab leaders in Israel and in the occupied areas who have supported the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty.

Police sources said today that a security detail had for some time been assigned to guard Sheik Hasham Huzandair, the religious leader killed Friday night in Gaza, but that two months ago he had asked that it be withdrawn because he did not want to seem to be identified with the Israeli military government.

Associated Press

Sheik Hasham Huzandair

Associated Press

Rescue workers carrying a woman to an ambulance after she was wounded by a bombing at a bookstore in Jerusalem

This makes our efforts with Congress absolutely critical. There is still time to influence the Administration's position if we can mobilize Congress to support the Code.

PLEASE HELP

1. Write to your Senators and Representatives, urging them to co-sponsor and vote for the Senate and House resolutions calling upon the Administration to vote "yes" on the Code of Marketing when it is presented to the World Health Assembly via the WHO Executive Board Resolution. (The Executive Board Resolution is the vehicle which recommends the Code to the Assembly. It is important to support this resolution as well as the Code itself since the resolution stresses that the Code is a minimum standard and presents the two-year monitoring period.)

2. If your legislators are members of the House Foreign Affairs Committee or the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, please focus particular attention on them to co-sponsor the Resolution (see enclosed Committee memberships).

3. Send a copy of your letter to President Reagan.

4. Visit your local Congressional offices to communicate these concerns personally.

5. Notify your constituents about what is happening and ask them to help.

6. Try to get press coverage for this latest phase of the "infant formula controversy." Contact local newspapers and magazines, as well as institutional press and newsletters.

7. If you are stockholders in any of the three U.S. companies, write a letter protesting their decision to fight the recommendations of the world's health leaders.

ICCR has asked Carol Somplatsky-Jarman to assist us in this effort, and you may be hearing from her directly. If you have any further questions, call either Carol, me, or the Washington INFACT Office (202/861-0805).

Sincerely,

Leah Margulies

Leah Margulies
Director
Infant Formula Program